

State of South Dakota

EIGHTY-SEVENTH SESSION LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2012

562T0766

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3

Introduced by: Senators Hunhoff (Jean), Cutler, Frerichs, Hansen (Tom), Haverly, Holien, Johnston, Kraus, Krebs, Nelson (Tom), Olson (Russell), Peters, Putnam, Rampelberg, Rave, Schlekeway, Tidemann, Tieszen, and Vehle and Representatives Boomgarden, Abdallah, Brunner, Conzet, Cronin, Dryden, Fargen, Gibson, Gosch, Hansen (Jon), Hawley, Hickey, Hoffman, Hunt, Kirkeby, Kirschman, Kopp, Liss, Lucas, Lust, Moser, Novstrup (David), Olson (Betty), Scott, Sigdestad, Solum, Steele, Street, Stricherz, Tulson, Turbiville, Van Gerpen, Verchio, White, Wick, and Willadsen

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Designating the month of November as COPD Awareness

2 Month in the State of South Dakota.

3 WHEREAS, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) is a term used to describe
4 airflow obstruction that is associated mainly with emphysema and chronic bronchitis; and

5 WHEREAS, COPD affects an estimated twenty-four million people and kills more than one
6 hundred twenty thousand Americans every year; on average, one person dies from COPD every
7 four minutes, an alarming statistic for a disease many have not learned about; and

8 WHEREAS, in 2008 COPD became the third leading cause of death in the United States;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, pulmonary experts predict that by the year 2020, COPD will become the
11 leading cause of death worldwide; and

12 WHEREAS, COPD currently accounts for one million five hundred thousand emergency



1 department visits, seven hundred twenty-six thousand hospitalizations, and eight million
2 physician office and hospital outpatient visits, all of which are a detriment to the United States
3 economy; COPD costs the nation an estimated forty-nine billion nine hundred million dollars
4 in direct and indirect medical costs annually; and

5 WHEREAS, chronic lower respiratory disease, which includes COPD and asthma,
6 accounted for six and two-fifths percent of the 2010 South Dakota resident deaths; and

7 WHEREAS, there were over fifty-seven thousand hospitalizations for acute respiratory
8 diseases in South Dakota between 2000-2009 for residents sixty-five years of age and older; and

9 WHEREAS, the American Lung Association in South Dakota is implementing the South
10 Dakota COPD Strategic Plan, a state-wide effort to increase early detection, improve care and
11 treatment, and prevent and reduce the prevalence of the disease; and

12 WHEREAS, research has identified a hereditary protein deficiency called Alpha-1
13 Antitrypsin; people with this deficiency tend to develop COPD, even without exposure to
14 smoking or environment triggers; and

15 WHEREAS, recently the death rate for women with COPD has surpassed the death rate of
16 men with COPD; women over the age of forty are the fastest-growing segment of the population
17 developing this irreversible disease, due in large part to the equalization of opportunities for
18 men and women to smoke over the past several generations; and

19 WHEREAS, there is currently no cure for COPD; spirometry testing and medical treatments
20 exist to address symptom relief and possibly slow the progression of the disease; and

21 WHEREAS, until there is a cure, the best approaches to preventing COPD and its
22 considerable health, societal, and mortality impacts lie with education, awareness, and expanded
23 delivery of detection and management protocols:

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Senate of the Eighty-seventh Legislature

1 of the State of South Dakota, the House of Representatives concurring therein, that we designate
2 the month of November as COPD Awareness Month in the State of South Dakota in recognition
3 of this deadly disease and its effects on the citizens of this state.